NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck N.D. 58505

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Contacts: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892

Independent Living Council to meet Feb. 1-2 in Grand Forks

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota's Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) that advocates for developing independent living resources and promoting full community participation of people with disabilities, will meet Feb. 1-2 at the Canad Inn, 1000 S. 42nd Street in Grand Forks.

The public is welcome to participate. Council members will meet Feb. 1, from 1 to 5 p.m., and Feb. 2, from 9 a.m. to noon.

On Wednesday, council members will discuss the legislative session and bills related to services for people with disabilities, and Reggie Tarr of Lutheran Social Services will provide information about serving individuals from diverse backgrounds. The council's standing committees will also hold working sessions.

The directors of the centers for independent living in North Dakota and the council's standing committees will provide reports on Thursday. The complete meeting agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Annually about 20,000 North Dakotans receive independent living services so they can live and work more independently in their homes and communities. Core services include information and referral, independent living skills training, peer mentoring, advocacy, and transition services to assist people with disabilities to move from nursing homes or other institutions into the community and to assist youth with disabilities as they transition from school life to adulthood.

Individuals who need auxiliary aids or services to participate in the meeting or who would like more information can contact the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, North Dakota Department of Human Services, at 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 1B, Bismarck, N.D., 58501, 701-328-8950, toll-free 800-755-2745, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

The governor appoints council members. Membership information is available online at http://governor.nd.gov/boards/BoardDetails.aspx?boardid=48.